

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 IO-14 EB-11 AID-20 OMB-01 DRC-01 TRSE-00 /139 W

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R 260920Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6907

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9230

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, BG, PK, US

SUBJECT: PRIME MINISTER MUJIB'S WASHINGTON VISIT

REF: (A) DACCA 4290, (B) ISLAMABAD 9102

1. WE WOULD CERTAINLY HOPE AND EXPECT THAT IN ANY DISCUSSION  
USG OFFICIALS MAY HAVE WITH MUJIB ON THE PROBLEM OF PAKISTAN-  
BANGLADESH RELATIONS (PARA 4, REF A) THEY WOULD GIVE HIM NO  
REASON TO BELIEVE THAT US INTENDS TO BECOME SERIOUSLY  
INVOLVED IN EFFORT TO BRING ABOUT FURTHER RECONCILIATION OF  
THE TWO COUNTRIES.

2. AS THE DEPARTMENT IS WELL AWARE, BOTH THE ISSUES OF  
DIVISION OF PRE-1971 ASSETS AND LIABILITIES AND REPATRIATION  
OF BIHARIS ARE TANGLED PROBLEMS DEEPLY OVERLAID WITH THE  
EMOTION AND DOMESTIC POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS WHICH CHARACTERIZE  
ALMOST ALL ASPECTS OF PAKISTAN-BD RELATIONS. FUNDAMENTAL  
DIFFERENCES IN THE APPROACH TAKEN BY THE TWO SIDES, ALREADY  
GREAT, WERE RECENTLY WIDENED FURTHER BY PM BHUTTO'S TOUGH  
STATEMENT (REF B) CHIDING BD FOR ITS INCONSISTENCY IN  
CLAIMING THAT IT HAD FOUGHT A WAR OF LIBERATION WHILE AT  
THE SAME TIME INSISTING ON AN ACCOUNTABILITY OF ASSETS AND  
LIABILITIES AND DRAWING DISTINCTION BETWEEN BD INSISTENCE  
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ON SHARE OF ASSETS AS RIGHT AND PAKISTAN WILLINGNESS TO

CONSIDER "GESTURE".

3. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE BELIEVE BEST USG LINE WOULD BE TO (1) EXPRESS OUR SATISFACTION WITH THE INITIAL STEPS TAKEN BY BOTH COUNTRIES IN FINDING A BASIS FOR A NEW RELATIONSHIP NOTING IN THIS CONNECTION ALSO OUR SUPPORT FOR THE

WORLD BANK ARRANGED DEBT RESCHEDULING PROGRAM WHICH HAS FACILITATED CONTINUED FOREIGN ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE; (2) DECLARE OUR HOPE THAT PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH CAN SUCCESSFULLY WORK OUT THEIR

REMAINING DIFFERENCES AND FULLY NORMALIZE THEIR RELATIONSHIPS, URGING THE ADVISABILITY OF SUCH RECONCILIATION AND (3) POINT OUT TO MUJIB IF HE CALLS FOR US INTERVENTION IN WORKING OUT A SETTLEMENT THAT RESPONSIBILITY FOR SUCH A SETTLEMENT MUST PROPERLY REST PRIMARILY WITH THE TWO COUNTRIES THEMSELVES.

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## Message Attributes

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**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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